



City of Hampton, VA

Meeting Minutes

City Council

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

Linda Curtis
W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr.
Will Moffett
Chris Snead
Christopher G. Stuart
Donnie R. Tuck
George E. Wallace, Mayor

Staff:
Mary Bunting, City Manager
Vanessa T. Valldejuli, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

7:02 PM

Council Chambers, 8th Floor, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

GEORGE E. WALLACE PRESIDED

PRESENT: Linda Curtis, W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr., Will Moffett, Chris Snead, Christopher G. Stuart, Donnie R. Tuck

INVOCATION – Councilman Will Moffett

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Wallace commended young people in our community for recognizing the need for peace. He then read a proclamation proclaiming the month of April as Peace Month and noted that the proclamation was prepared as a result of the actions of these young people in our community. A copy of the proclamation is attached to the minutes.

As part of Peace Month, Mayor Wallace encouraged everyone to participate in random acts of kindness such as complimenting one another and holding doors for one another, as these types of kind actions exhibit peace.

Mayor Wallace called upon City Manager Mary Bunting to give remarks regarding the budgetary process. Prior to that discussion, Ms. Bunting introduced Police Chief Terry Sult to brief Council on the crime statistics in the community and how Hampton compares to other localities in the Hampton Roads area. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

Chief Sult greeted those on the dais and said he would speak about crime trends in Hampton, how we compare in the Hampton Roads area and portray an accurate picture of what the statistics show. He noted that oftentimes information pulled from various websites is not always accurate, so the best and most accurate information is via the Uniform Crime Report which from time to time even has disparities.

Chief Sult reviewed slide 1 which shows Hampton's crime rate is at its lowest since 2005. Slide 2 shows that violent crime has also significantly reduced from 477 incidents

in 2005 to 273 incidents in 2013, a 40% or higher reduction. Chief Sult noted the reduction in crime may be attributed somewhat to what is going on nationally; however, when looking at the national trends, we also see some cities which have gone upward in violent crime in recent years.

Chief Sult said this is a "tale of two cities" because we are joined tightly with the city of Newport News with which we have a common border, similar concerns, and residents committing criminal offenses in each other's cities. Additional common problems the cities share include the uptick of youth violence, violent crime and weapons with youth. He added that with the concentrated effort with Council and the Mayor's support, we are looking across the community to address those issues. He emphasized that while these things may be on the rise and are being taken seriously, our overall crime trends and overall violent crime are significantly lower than they have been in almost a decade.

Chief Sult described how we compare with other areas. Slide 4 shows that we are the average for the Hampton Roads Region and are tied with the city of Newport News. He reiterated that while all crime is taken seriously, when looking at the violent crime rate, we are the second safest city in the Hampton Roads area, second to Virginia Beach. He emphasized that this speaks volumes about the collaborative efforts of the Hampton Police Division, our community and how they view crime as a community problem versus a police problem.

Chief Sult closed stating we need to look at the whole picture by addressing our youth and providing opportunities for them. He added that we also need to look at prevention and intervention, and recovery and reentry so that criminals will not return to criminal activities once they return to society.

Ms. Bunting thanked Chief Sult for the information and noted that numerous comments have been made regarding Hampton being a crime capital for the region; however, the facts show that that is not true. She also noted that our school system presented a similar fact based picture revealing that our school performance is better than people perceive. She added that the crime statistics and school performance data will be posted on our website. She emphasized that we are an all American City because we engage the community, specifically regarding safety and education.

Mayor Wallace thanked Chief Sult for the presentation and opened the floor for questions and/or comments from those on the dais. There were no questions or comments posed.

AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ms. Bunting stated the first item relates to the CDBG and HOME Investment Partnership Program Budgets which are federal funds our communities are entitled to receive. She noted that, for the record, there will be a brief presentation followed by the Public Hearing/Comment portion and another Public Hearing on the remainder of the City budget including the General Fund, other special funds and the proposed personal property tax rate increase. She also noted that no action is required by Council this evening; however, action will take place at the May 7, 2014 and May 14, 2014 meetings.

1. 14-0177 2014-2015 Consolidated Annual Action Plan which includes the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program Budgets.

Neighborhood Grants Clerk Amanda Olwig greeted those on the dais and stated tonight is the draft hearing for the Consolidated Annual Action Plan for Housing Community Development which includes the Community Development and Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program Budgets. She then briefed Council on the various programs. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

Ms. Olwig elaborated on slides 9-11 which give an overview of the total resources we may have to support activities next fiscal year. Program Income is income generated from the use of funds, for example, if a property is purchased with CDBG funds, rehabilitated and sold to a low to moderate income individual, that money comes back into the account as program income. The CDBG Revolving Loan Fund is a separate self-sustaining account established several years ago where we make loans out of this account and as those loans are repaid, the money is put back into that account. The CDBG Reimbursement Account is similar to Program Income, and is a locally held account where we have received reimbursements for previous acquisitioned properties. She noted that we have approximately \$2 million overall to support activities next fiscal year.

Ms. Olwig reviewed slides 13 and 14 listing the activities proposed under CDBG. She noted that the parentheses indicate the organization or department that applied for funding.

Ms. Olwig elaborated on the Revolving Loan Fund Activities (shown on slide 15) which is a self-sustaining separate account and the activity proposed for this is Housing Programs. She explained that this activity is in very high demand and typically exhausts its funds quickly. She continued stating that these funds will be permanently removed from the Revolving Loan Fund to help fund the CDBG entitlement activity of housing programs since there are insufficient funds to fully fund the activity through our entitlement moneys. She noted that the activity covers the material costs associated with the exterior improvement program, the wheelchair ramp program, the emergency repair grant program and the weatherization energy efficiency program.

Ms. Olwig reviewed slides 16 and 17 which list the HOME Investment Partnership Proposed Program Activities. Slide 19 shows the CDBG and HOME action plan date schedule. Ms. Olwig opened the floor for questions from those on the dais.

Prior to discussion, Mayor Wallace called upon Clerk of Council Katherine Glass to read the Public Hearing Protocol.

Councilman Stuart referred to slide 13 regarding the Partnership for a New Phoebus and said the Partnership has had a fairly set amount of money to try to make Phoebus' commercial aspect as vibrant as possible. He said, in his opinion, with Fort Monroe and the Governor's Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) facility transitioning, this seems like the exact time we would need the most amount of planning in Phoebus to ensure we get it right and that it is successful. He asked how we ended up (this particular year) with that fiscal trim for the partnership?

Ms. Olwig stated priorities that Council has set over the past several years have begun to shift funding. She explained that during this fiscal year, we had a hard time funding several initiatives, for example, only \$12,000 of the \$205,000 for code enforcement is coming from our entitlement amount, and the \$192,000 extra is coming from the reimbursement account. She explained those are non-recurring funds, so we didn't have enough money to utilize the entitlement amount to fund the new priority that City Council set this year in hiring the new code enforcement individuals. In addition to that, we also have our housing programs which we still did not have sufficient funding for – they always exhaust their funding each year for their programs because the program is highly utilized and helps a lot of people. In order to try to fund that, \$80,000 will come out of our entitlement amount and an additional \$80,000 out of our revolving loan fund. In addition, the Partnership for a New Phoebus has received (over the years) a decreasing amount of funding. During the inception of their initial agreement in 1986, it was deemed that the City CDBG account would help to fund the Phoebus programs and over the years they would become a self-sustaining entity.

Councilman Stuart asked what this equates to from a staffing standpoint. For example, will they lose a full time or part time position? Ms. Olwig noted she was not positive; however, they have always requested a higher amount than we have been able to give to them, and they may have other funding sources, but it is something that would need to be discussed with the Partnership for a New Phoebus.

Vice Mayor Curtis inquired about what the Partnership for a New Phoebus has accomplished over the last few years, particularly since they have been given this money for economic development purposes. Ms. Olwig stated, each year, they have created two new positions for low to moderate income individuals in the Phoebus area.

Councilman Moffett asked for clarity regarding the deficit for Phoebus regarding those salaries and where the funding is going for the CDGB. Ms. Olwig stated it was going to partially fund the Executive Director's salary, an assistant's salary, rent and some supplies for administrative costs. Councilman Moffett expressed the importance of continuing to invest in Phoebus and Fort Monroe (not necessarily out of CDBG money) given their significance. He said it would be foolish to cut back on Phoebus, and suggested redefining the relationship so that we can determine how to accelerate the process. He emphasized that Council will not disinvest because of what is happening with CDBG and will find another way to do it. Ms. Olwig said Phoebus does have money for rehabilitation and new construction and CDBG owns several properties we will be working on in the future.

Mayor Wallace added that we will invest and verify that we are getting the proper return on our investments.

Councilwoman Snead expressed the importance of resolving this issue because Phoebus is such an asset to our City. She stated she heard that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is issuing guidance that CDBG funding not be used to support the Partnership for a New Phoebus.

Ms. Olwig clarified that we have received guidance from HUD, but haven't stepped in that direction yet; however, she does not want the eligibility and the amount of funding they receive to be correlated. She clarified that they would have received that reduction

in funds regardless. In response to Councilwoman Snead, Ms. Olwig confirmed that HUD is saying similar programs might not be eligible for support.

Ms. Bunting addressed Councilman Moffett's concern about the gap between the amount recommended and what they have. She clarified that in the current year, we are providing \$36,000; however, the Partnership has asked for more. She explained the difference between what we are providing in FY14 and what the FY15 budget would provide is a little over \$20,000. She recommended that additional funding come out of the General Fund as opposed to attempting to amend the CDBG Budget if Council does decide to provide additional funding. She noted that we have been very clear with the Partnership, over the years, that they would be receiving declining amounts.

Ms. Bunting noted, for the record, that we have done a lot over the years and have supported the predecessor to the Partnership of a New Phoebus, the Phoebus Improvement League, specifically when we purchased the Helmer Property in concert with them, and allowed them to keep some of the profits. For the record, she stated that we have invested over \$2.2 million in this particular activity alone, and it has been money well spent; however, we have been very strong partners and investors in Phoebus and there is the desire to keep the momentum going. She noted if Council wants to do that, she would seek to amend the General Fund budget to accomplish it as opposed to using the CDBG budget.

Councilman Tuck said in concert with what we were doing with the downtown Masterplan as far as what Hampton First was doing, we were also looking at another iteration of the Phoebus Masterplan which we adopted last year, so in his opinion, there is no desire by Council to abandon Phoebus; instead, we are looking at more investment and a different type of investment in Phoebus. He added that one of the reasons we redid the Masterplan is because Fort Monroe is a National Monument – the last plan was adopted in 2007 and 6 years later, we are adopting a new plan. He said he believes there is no desire by Council or the City to abandon Phoebus and we recognize its importance as being the gateway to Fort Monroe. He stated he reinforces our commitment to Phoebus.

Councilman Stuart suggested that Economic Development Director Leonard Sledge look at what the Partnership does and assign his current resources to this project and report back to Council. Ms. Bunting agreed that we have a very capable Economic Development Director who works very hard for the City. She also thanked Councilman Tuck for acknowledging that we do care deeply about Phoebus as it is a key commercial corridor. She added that regardless of what we do with the Partnership for a New Phoebus funding, we are going to support the organization as well as we possibly can. She noted she would ask Mr. Sledge to address Councilman Stuart's point.

In response to Councilman Hobbs, Ms. Bunting said she believes there is a staff member that does regular outreach to the Partnership. Councilman Hobbs suggested offering help in the way of a staff person similar to what we do with Coliseum Central Business Improvement District (BID). Ms. Bunting noted she would verify how that works and if it is different from how things work with the BID's, then we can make that offer.

Councilman Tuck suggested receiving Community Development Director Terry O'Neill's perspective as well (as Mr. Sledge) since he oversees a number of the Masterplans and

Community Development Plans and has a high level view of what is going on in Phoebus. Ms. Bunting agreed and noted that we will have both Department Heads share their observations.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Hugh Bassette, 117 Rip Rap Road, President of Old Northampton Community Organization, greeted those on the dais, referred to the map just presented by Ms. Olwig and made the following statement: As part of the report that the young lady explained, here is a map that shows you neighborhoods that are over 51% low to moderate income and we are in that. It also shows you the neighborhoods with a concentration of black residents and that is in the heavy blue, so we are talking about Old Hampton, Old North Hampton and parts of Phoebus. Also, we would like to thank two people who no longer work for the City, but who have helped us over the years, Ms. Angelique Shenk and Ms. Sabrina Carr. We would publicly like to thank them for the help that they have given us.

Mr. Bassette noted that he looks forward to working with Jonathan McBride, who replaced Ms. Shenk.

Mr. Bassette continued his statement: In the report, it talks about the different programs that Hampton has and it has a unique set of programs, more than any city I have ever seen and I have been working with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) since 1976, so that shows you how young I am. You get the money based on a formula of affordable housing and some other characteristics and that is how HUD determines how much each city gets. The program that the young lady just laid out was in last year's budget, but it tells you how many homes or properties were in each category, but it doesn't tell you where. Last year, after the presentation, we requested from the Community Development Department a list of the locations of the properties. We found out that in acquisitions: there were 14, but not one was in Old Northampton; wheelchair Ramps: 2, but not in Old Northampton; Clearance: 34, 1 was in Old Northampton in a house that has been empty at least for seven years and it caught on fire and they knocked it down, so it wasn't construction; it was destruction; Home owner rehab: 9, none in Old Northampton; Homebuyer Assistance and Homebuyers Club: 9, none in Old Northampton; Acquisition and Rehabilitation: 7, none in Old Northampton; CHODO, Habitat for Humanity, they received over \$500,000, none in Old Northampton. We contacted them and they wouldn't even sit down and talk to us.

Mr. Bassette continued his statement: You have low and moderate income neighborhoods. We are saying that you all are doing okay on the moderate income neighborhoods, but in the low income neighborhoods (our neighborhoods), we are getting very little. The last one is disposition and property management: 6 projects, none in Old Northampton. So, what we are asking for this is that next year when this list comes out, we would like to see some activity in our neighborhood because we are low income, we qualify and we don't understand how we keep getting jumped over year after year. I would be remiss if I didn't say that I did get involved in it. The project is not listed here, but it was a weatherization project for the elderly senior citizens, so sometimes it is good to be old and poor. I got a brand new roof and as long as I live in my house for five years, I don't have to pay for it. You can't drag me out of that house at least for the next five years. Hopefully, next year, we can get some CDBG money to the old Northampton neighborhood. We need it. We deserve it. We qualify for it. Thank you.

Mayor Wallace called for additional speakers from those in the audience. There were no additional speakers; therefore, he closed the Public Hearing.

PRESENTED by Amanda Olwig, Neighborhood Grant Clerk.
HELD PUBLIC HEARING Hugh Bassette spoke on this item. He was complimentary of former city staff members Angelique Shenk and Sabrina Carr and expressed that he looks forward to working with Jonathan McBride. He spoke about CDBG and HOME funds not being spent in the Old Northampton neighborhood.

2. 14-0182 Public Hearing to Receive Citizens' Comments Relative to the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget and Proposed Taxes and Fees, Including:

General Operating Budget ("General Fund"),
Capital Improvement Fund,
Solid Waste Management Fund,
Stormwater Management Fund,
Wastewater Management Fund,
Steam Plant Fund,
Fleet Services Fund,
Risk Management Fund,
Information Technology Fund,
Hampton Coliseum and Arts Fund,
Hampton Roads Convention Center Fund,
The Hamptons Golf Course Budget,
The Woodlands Golf Course Budget,
Economic Development Fund,
Proposed Personal Property Tax Rate (Increase)

Ms. Bunting reminded the public that the items listed in the title are the subject of this particular Public Hearing. She reiterated that there would be no action by Council this evening and that future action will occur at the first reading on May 7th and the second reading on May 14th.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Ms. Deborah Jones, 202 Pamela Drive, retired Captain, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Thank you for this opportunity to address you this evening. When you walk into a dark room, your hand quickly goes to the wall to feel for the light switch. Well, for me, a traumatic brain injury survivor (who was) given a 20% chance to live, The Denbigh House has been that light. Membership has helped me understand and accept that while I may never command troops, The Denbigh House has given me post traumatic strength. I know something I didn't know before the accident: that I can survive. I have re-learned computer skills. I can develop a chart on the computer. The Denbigh House monthly participates in meals on wheels. Each year on January 31st, Brain Injury Awareness Day, our dedicated staff drives us to the General Assembly to speak with Delegates and Senators on support for brain injury funding. They also have a letter writing campaign for General Assembly members. Membership at the Denbigh House has connected me with the Brain Injury Association of Virginia and Virginia's Organization for People with Disabilities. We were awarded a resolution by the Virginia General Assembly. Where else can the brain injured receive guidance,

relearn job skills, develop socialization skills, get structured support needed by caring and knowledgeable staff? No place, but a brain injury clubhouse such as The Denbigh House. The City of Hampton's continued support proves that Hampton truly puts its citizens first. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Will Rosser, 16 Wells Court, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I am a Hampton resident and a member of The Denbigh House in Newport News, also. I have seen several of you there on occasion. Since my arrival from New York City to Hampton and joining The Denbigh House, I have become successful in just doing that. It has helped me get myself back on my feet again. I, too, am a traumatic brain injury survivor who has suffered 13 months asleep in a comma, and lost 30 years of memory. I am no longer the Chief Engineer of BIO.com Television in New York, their black entertainment enterprise, but I am a member of The Denbigh House and I am also a member in Partners and Policy Making in Richmond and spent last weekend at the General Assembly witnessing to some of the Senators and some of the representatives so that we could talk about funding both for The Denbigh House and for other organizations throughout Virginia for brain injury survivors and other survivors as well. I have a new career and a new life, now, and I have to say that being part of The Denbigh House has helped me go back to college and obtain another B.A. I'm pretty much going to graduate soon with my masters. This will help me along with training with Partners and Policy Making to advocate for people with all disabilities. I appreciate (once again) you all providing funding for The Denbigh House and I hope that you will continue to do this because it helps so many of us. Thank you very much.

Mr. Jason Young, 12725 McManus Blvd. Suite 2E, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I am part of The Denbigh House trifecta. I am the Executive Director of Community Brain Injury Services. I am here, first and foremost tonight as Will and Debra did, to say thank you for your on-going support of The Denbigh House. This will be the seventh year that you have included The Denbigh House in your funding. Not only do I want to say thank you, I want to provide a brief status update and then also ask for one additional item. Last year, The Denbigh House provided over 2,800 days of services including over 500 days of services to Hampton residents for survivors of brain injury here in the area. The services we provide at The Denbigh House are really critical in nature as Will and Debra referenced. Without access to services, some of our folks would have nothing to do during the day if they didn't have the clubhouse to go to. Some would be at immediate risk for health and safety issues if they did not have access to our services. Some would probably be in a nursing home or assisted living venue without, again, access to our community based services. Our services are really unique to the area. The Denbigh House is the only State defined core safety net service for survivors of brain injury on the Peninsula; despite the fact that there are over 11,000 individuals living on the Peninsula with a brain injury related disability. Given those numbers, it shouldn't be too surprising that we have a pretty high demand for our services and we have a waiting list for our services. Right now, there are 18 individuals on our urgent waiting list. What that means is from the time of referral, it takes us over 6 months to get that person into the program. Most of those folks have nowhere else to turn to get appropriate services like they can at The Denbigh House. As a core service by the State, we are allotted some general fund dollars as well as a mandate to engage our local communities that we serve to more fully serve persons with brain injury in our service area. Unfortunately, for the past seven years, our State funding as well as our local funding from both the City of Newport News and the City of Hampton have remained level funded. During the same time, demand for our services has increased

and (certainly) our cost to deliver the service has increased substantially as well. I am speaking tonight on behalf of the individuals on our waiting list, most of whom have no other service options – to ask you to consider an increase in The Denbigh House funding for the next fiscal year. This is the first time in seven years that The Denbigh House has asked for an increase in funding and we are asking for it simply because our waiting list demands it. I hope you can discuss and consider funding for The Denbigh House as you make your deliberations in the coming weeks. Our partnership with the City of Hampton remains critical to our on-going ability to serve as many people as possible. We really are grateful and thankful for your on-going support. On behalf of our Board and our staff, (we have over 190 individuals that we served in our agency last year) I want to say thank you for the on-going trust that you place in The Denbigh House. Thank you.

Mr. Douglas Hearst, 228 Hampton Roads Ave, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I have been a resident of Hampton since 1998. I have been playing softball for about 20-22 years. We play in Briarfield Park. In the late 1990's and in the early 2000's, Briarfield Park was in its heyday. Everybody used to come and bring their families to Briarfield Park and have a good time. They would have tournaments there all the time. As time went on, the Boo Williams Sportsplex came up and the City Council declined to fund the softball fields. To me, that was like a domino effect where it just went downhill from there at the Briarfield Sportsplex. Three years ago, we had several teams going in; to this day, there has been a 50% reduction in the number of teams that are there. Along with that, the number of sponsors that actually sponsor the teams are actually reduced because they feel that they don't want their company's name to be at the site of Hampton because there has been a dwindling resource to it. I've reviewed the budget for Parks and Recreation and for what is obligated for Briarfield Park and I don't see how Parks and Recreation can do what they do which is operating, let alone, maintaining the fields. At this time, I think Hampton should obligate the funds to Parks and Recreation to either refurbish Briarfield Park or establish a new park somewhere else. Right now, there are a lot of teams going to Newport News, Yorktown and Virginia Beach. As a Hampton citizen, I am going with them because we are an all American City here and we are supposed to be able to pull together and put our resources together and put in our community what we need to get out of it. People are getting hurt out in the fields right now. It has almost become a liability. Not as a player, but as a taxpayer, I think we either need to cut our losses with Briarfield and do away with it because it is a waste of funds right now. It's like putting a Band-Aid on a sore that just won't heal. Or, let's get the funding to Parks and Recreation to renew our fields or refurbish our fields including our restrooms. They are horrible. The lighting at Briarfield Park – the ladies don't feel safe there at night unless they are escorted to their cars. I'm not proud of that as a City of Hampton resident. I think we should do something about it. Thank you very much for your time.

Mr. Charles Hall, 333 Main Sail Dr., Director of the Hampton Community Services Board (CSB), greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: We are your provider of behavioral health services to the citizens of Hampton. We provide substance abuse services and services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. First of all, thank you for the continued support that is provided by the City each year to the CSB. We are grateful for the support, but we need your support more this next year than ever before. We have shared with Ms. Bunting that the CSB is unable to sustain our current array of services next fiscal year to the same number of children, adolescents and adults. The reasons are really quite simple: the CSB relies

upon earned revenue rather than local or State tax revenue to provide our services both to the insured population, but also to those individuals who are uninsured or who have no Medicaid or Medicare. The number of individuals in the uninsured category has increased during the past few years and the ability to earn sufficient revenue to cover the cost of care for residents dramatically indigent has been exhausted. Of the 4,754 residents of Hampton served last year, 1,924 or 40% had neither insurance, nor Medicaid nor Medicare benefits. The CSB can no longer continue serving all of these uninsured individuals. For your information, our large outpatient psychiatric clinic today had 2879 adults and children with serious mental illness or emotional disturbance. We are facing the need to eliminate treatment for 459 of those adult residents from Hampton – no insurance, no Medicaid, no Medicare. We are facing the very real prospect of placing all new individuals requesting services on waiting lists. It is what other CSB's have been doing for years. I am also very pessimistic about our ability to maintain staff positions focused on youth with emotional disturbance in the court services unit and at the Department of Human Services and at Bridgeport Academy. You are familiar with the CSB business model, but the citizens of Hampton may not be. We are unique among the sea of 39 other CSB's. Over the past five years, local tax contributions to the Hampton/Newport News CSB have exceeded \$60 million – a lot of money. During that same five year period, we have brought in \$177,210,000 of earned revenue for the citizens of Hampton and Newport News. So, in summary, Mr. Mayor, the CSB has been in communication all year long with the Manager and the Budget office. Our issues are local issues. They won't be solved by any action in Richmond and I am pessimistic that there will be any action. We have requested a significant increase in funding, the most significant increase since 1971 when you created us to serve primarily our medically indigent clientele. We appeal to you for additional support. Thank you.

Mayor Wallace opened the floor for questions from those on the dais.

Vice Mayor Curtis said Council was advised by the School Board that funding has been cut for some mental health services at Bridgeport Academy but that you (the CSB) would be able to bill for Medicaid. She asked Mr. Hall if he was aware of what the School Board is cutting as it relates to the CSB and services to Bridgeport.

Mr. Hall thanked Vice Mayor Curtis for her interest and noted that the School Superintendent has informed him of the required \$57,000 reduction in support to the CSB. He explained that Hampton is unique in that it has provided the CSB additional support for therapeutic day treatment to 302 children with and without Medicaid in 33 public schools. He said the CSB also provides services to Newport News children who have Medicaid; however, the City of Newport News does not provide additional funds to cover children without Medicaid.

In response to Vice Mayor Curtis, Mr. Hall stated the CSB cannot support services to individuals in Hampton who do not have Medicaid, particularly if we do not have something other than the earned revenue from Medicaid. He added that there are too many individuals who are medically indigent who we are trying to support including 109 children in CSB services from Hampton who do not have Medicaid coverage. He said he will try to sustain services to those individuals and reiterated that despite our good partnership and desire to maintain services, the CSB cannot serve children without Medicaid without some other source of funding.

Ms. Bunting clarified that this is regarding school provided funding and that the City Budget does provide three counselors for the Bridgeport program. Mr. Hall agreed and added that the only reduction in funding in either City (that he is aware of) is coming from the one position from the Hampton School Division.

Vice Mayor Curtis asked if that will reduce mental health services to Bridgeport Academy. Mr. Hall replied yes.

Councilman Moffett said Council's heart is being pulled because they want to do the right thing; however, we wrestle with this because it appears that Hampton is underwriting some of Newport News services.

For the benefit of the public, Ms. Bunting explained when you look at what we provide on a per capita basis or a consumer basis; it is higher than what Newport News is providing on a similar basis. She continued saying that we have struggled with this over the years because we believe any dollar we give the CSB would be put to good use, but at the same time, it has been our position that if we are already doing more than another jurisdiction on a per capita and per consumer basis, we really need to see the sister city also step up to the plate, otherwise we are underwriting more of the regions needs. While we are willing to do more because our CSB is the best in the State (in her opinion), we also have to look out for the taxpayers and make sure that we are not doing more than our fair share.

Mr. Hall gave the following statistical information. The CSB served 12,296 individuals last year 5,471 from Newport News, 2,365 of which were uninsured. We served 4754 from Hampton and 1924 were uninsured. Forty percent of the Hampton residents were uninsured and 43% of the Newport News residents were uninsured. In absolute dollars, Hampton provides more local support. In terms of per capita, the number of total citizens – Newport News provides a little over \$8 per capita and Hampton provides a little over \$12 per capita. There is an absolute dollar difference and a per capita difference. There are more people who access services who reside in Newport News than reside in Hampton.

Mr. Hall noted that he is uncomfortable with the circumstance because this has been one of Hampton's most successful multi-jurisdiction efforts for over 42 years. He said we serve people without checking their driver's licenses to see where they live. Instead, we find out their issues and then find out what their healthcare coverage is and go from there. He noted that he regrets being in a position where they have to find out where they live before we serve them.

Councilman Moffett asked if there is a political will of the Hampton and Newport News' Mayor, City Manager and staff to work together to try to hash through this again. He said ultimately the people will lose even though the reality is that we only have so many dollars.

Mr. Hall commented that there are members of the Newport News City Council who would like to approach this dialogue. He continued saying that Hampton's staff (Assistant City Manager James Gray) and Newport News' City Manager have been in close communication, so in his opinion, there is political interest; however, they may simply need a nudge in the right direction.

Councilman Moffett noted that he understands that there is little money available; however, re-directed the question to both Mayor Wallace and Ms. Bunting for a response on whether there is an opportunity for additional discussion between the two cities. Ms. Bunting stated that she will engage in this topic when she meets with the Newport News City Manager on another matter tomorrow. She reiterated that the two cities do communicate regularly regarding this matter. In response to Councilman Moffett, Mayor Wallace replied "yes".

Ms. Pamela Croom, 109 Greenwell St., President of Hampton Council Parent Teacher Association (PTA), greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Tonight I speak to you on behalf of the 5,100 PTA members in the City of Hampton. We urge you to fully fund the Hampton City Schools budget by providing an increase in the City's share to Hampton City Schools. While we realize that Hampton has many important needs which require investment, Hampton City Schools is now at a critical juncture. If you fund Hampton City Schools with the level share, funding for teacher furloughs and stipends for National Board Certified teachers, we believe you will be presiding over the dismantling of our school system that Hampton took pains to build. We urge you to set your maximum budget rate as high as possible in order to provide you the flexibility you will need to fully fund our schools. During our recessionary period, not only has our student population decreased, but certain populations who require more expensive services and interventions have grown at even faster rates—namely students who receive free and reduced lunches, students who speak English as a second language, and students who receive special education. Over the last five years, our class sizes have increased. Our elementary school students deal with cramped spaces and less of the individual attention they need within classrooms. Class sizes this high are already inappropriate for a City that wishes to provide a first-class education to every student. The list of unfunded or underfunded programs is long, but notable direct impacts to the classroom are our instructional assistants, English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers, School Counselors, middle school staffing and supplements for all staff. Hampton's (fair) share does not begin to address the skeletal state of Hampton City Schools' budget. We have quality schools in our district, but we are worried the quality will eventually decline as the finances of the district become less stable. We think it's unreasonable to expect great schools and not pay more for them. The outsourcing of our custodians and HVAC workers to the private sector has caused a lot of concerns from our membership. These are our family members, friends and neighbors who contribute to making Hampton a great place to live and raise a family. Concerns range from why would we want to outsource jobs and allow strangers from a for-profit corporation to come into our schools and make big profits off our taxes? To the question of do we really want strangers working in our schools and our tax dollars leaving Hampton? In attracting local business, Hampton sells our excellent school system as our "product." Steven Covey writes - We only get one chance to prepare our students for a future that none of us can possibly predict. What are we going to do with that one chance? The world has entered an era of the most profound and challenging change in human history. Most of our children are not prepared, and we know it. Parents around the world see the change and know that reading, writing and math are necessary, but not enough. Their children need to become far more responsible, creative, and tolerant of differences. They need to increase their ability to think for themselves, take initiative, get along with others, and solve problems. Business leaders are not finding people whose skills and character match the demands of today's global economy, including strong communication; teamwork; analytical, technology, and organizational skills - young people who are self-motivated, creative, and who have a strong work ethic. How

will we bridge this ever-widening gap? You must understand that the FY15 School Budget already represents unacceptable cuts. If the City Council wishes to continue selling its "product," then you must be prepared to fully fund Hampton City Schools. Thank you for your time and reevaluation of the funding for our students and school community.

Mayor Wallace asked Ms. Croom to provide Council with a copy of the PTA's position in terms of "add backs" and what they think are the most responsible things to give additional funding to in the school systems budget.

Ms. Karen Joyner, 2401 Aluminum Ave., Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank, greeted those on the dais and staff and made the following statement: I have two purposes for being here tonight. First, I would like to thank you for recommending funding for the Food Bank and so many other non-profit organizations serving the citizens of Hampton. We all need and appreciate the faith you have shown in us by including us in the proposed budget. With the funds that have been recommended in next year's budget, the Food Bank will be able to distribute 123,000 meals to those in need in the City. During the past 12 months, we have actually distributed the equivalent of over 2.5 million meals in the City of Hampton. This week, the latest statistics on food insecurity were released by the Research Arm of Feeding America, the network of Food Banks across the country. This project was funded by the Howard G. Buffet Foundation and the Neilson Company. Food insecurity is defined by the U.S. D. A. as a socioeconomic condition of limited or uncertain access to enough food to support an active, healthy life. Sadly, of the seven Food Banks of the State of Virginia, the area serviced by the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank has the highest rate of food insecurity in the State at 13.9 %. Sadder still, is the fact that in the City of Hampton, the food insecurity rate is 17.2%. That means that one out of every six individuals in the City doesn't know where his or her next nutritious meal is coming from. This percentage represents over 23,000 children, seniors and others living on the edge. Working through Food Banks and our partner agencies ensures that funds entrusted to us are spent in the most efficient manner possible. The second purpose for speaking with you tonight is to ask you to consider in the future exempting non-profits from paying real estate taxes. Although we have received almost \$31,000 in a City grant this year, we will have paid over \$78,000 to the City in real estate taxes during the same period of time. Most municipalities exempt non-profits from this tax. With these additional funds, we would be able to distribute 314,000 additional meals to those who are food insecure. I know that this topic has been discussed in the past, so in closing, I simply ask that you continue to keep an open mind about the possibility of rescinding this tax for non-profit organizations and consider the impact these funds would have on the social service organizations within the City of Hampton. Thank you.

Mr. Hugh Bassette, 117 Rip Rap Road, greeted those on the dais, noted that he is speaking as a citizen and taxpayer, not as a representative of Old Northampton and made the following statement: I don't believe that you all are going to give us another tax increase. Last year, what you all called an investment which was nothing but a disguised tax increase (like Shakespeare says – a rose by any other name is still a rose). Last year, our taxes went up and now you want to raise our personal property tax. I have a 1997 Jeep and a 2000 Chrysler that you are taxing. I even have a scooter (that I am going to fall and break my neck on one day), but you tax that. The one thing you don't tax (and it is because of politics, not because of fiscal responsibility) is a boat tax. The boat people in this town are organized and they vote. So, you being politicians, you

are not going to enact a boat tax because you don't have the courage to do that. Last City Council election, there were eight people running and I went down to the Salt Ponds and they asked the people who were in favor of a boat tax. There was one (crazy) person who was running at the time who said they would support a boat tax (at a Salt Ponds meeting). I also remember when they asked one particular person – I see Ms. Snead smiling because she knows I'm going to ask her – when they asked her she said "I do not favor a boat tax at this time, but I want to reconsider the issue further down the road". We are two years now further down the road and I don't understand why I have to pay taxes on my Jeep, my scooter and on my Chrysler and the people with boats and RV's don't have to pay anything. I don't mind the one cent real estate tax because I'm elderly and my tax is deferred, so the only way you are going to get my real estate taxes is over my dead body. I may as well be talking to this plant behind me, but I support a boat tax and I think that is one way for you to balance this budget and hopefully (even though I don't think so) you will have the courage to enact the boat tax and make this equal because I don't have a boat. I don't even fool around in the water that much. We pay money out of the budget to clear channels, etc. so that people can enjoy their boats. I am not hating on the boat owners, but if we are going to take my tax money to help them enjoy their boat, then I think they should pay taxes on their boat just like I have to pay taxes on my old raggedy cars. Thank you.

Mayor Wallace called for additional speakers from those in the audience. There being none, the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor Wallace called for comments from those on the dais. There were none. Mayor Wallace then stated that the first reading on the budget will take place on Wednesday, May 7th at 7 p.m. and the adoption of the budget is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14th at 7 p.m.

HELD PUBLIC HEARING Debra Jones, Will Rosser, and Jason Young spoke in support of Denbigh House and thanked City Council for their support.

Douglas Hearst requested consideration of additional funding to refurbish Briarfield Park or create a new softball complex.

Charles Hall spoke in support of additional funding for the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board.

Pamela Croom spoke as President of the Hampton Council of PTAs. She requested full funding of the Hampton City Schools budget.

Karen Joyner, Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank, thanked City Council for the funds recommended in the FY15 budget and suggested consideration be given to rescinding the real estate and personal property tax on non-profits.

Hugh Bassette spoke in opposition to any tax increase but he supports a reinstatement of a boat tax.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

George E. Wallace
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____

City of Hampton
Virginia

Proclamation

PROCLAIMING APRIL 2014

AS

PEACE MONTH

IN THE CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, peace is defined as the cessation of hostility; and

WHEREAS, violence is the exertion of aggression and cruelty causing abuse, injury or bad feelings; and

WHEREAS, the young people in the city of Hampton desire a community where every citizen can feel safe and respected; and

WHEREAS, the city of Hampton's youth strongly believe that a focus on peace is crucial to the well-being of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, our youth who serve as Citizens' Unity Commission (CUC) Youth Advisors, Community Action Coalition for the Prevention of Youth Violence Youth Consultants, or who took part in the 2013 Youth Summit, sponsored by the Citizens' Unity Commission, have learned that building open and positive relationships across the full spectrum of diversity, especially political, racial, religious, sexual and socio-economic diversity, is the cornerstone of building peace among citizens; and

WHEREAS, our youth believe that a healthy community consists of unity, encouragement, safety, consistency, love, serenity, a strong family foundation, and basic needs such as food and shelter for all; and

WHEREAS, young people in the City of Hampton believe a healthy community also consists of compassionate leaders and trusted partnerships between local government and youth citizens; conflict resolution training to all citizens; a place where citizens feel a sense of belonging and are accepted, respected and treated with friendliness and fairness; a safe school environment with harmonious relationships; pleasing sights and a high level of aesthetics with parks, bike and walking trails; entertainment which provides opportunities for social interaction; and citizens who offer random acts of kindness; and

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's Hampton Peace Campaign is "Speak Now or Forever Lose Your Peace".

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George E. Wallace, Mayor, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2014, as

PEACE MONTH

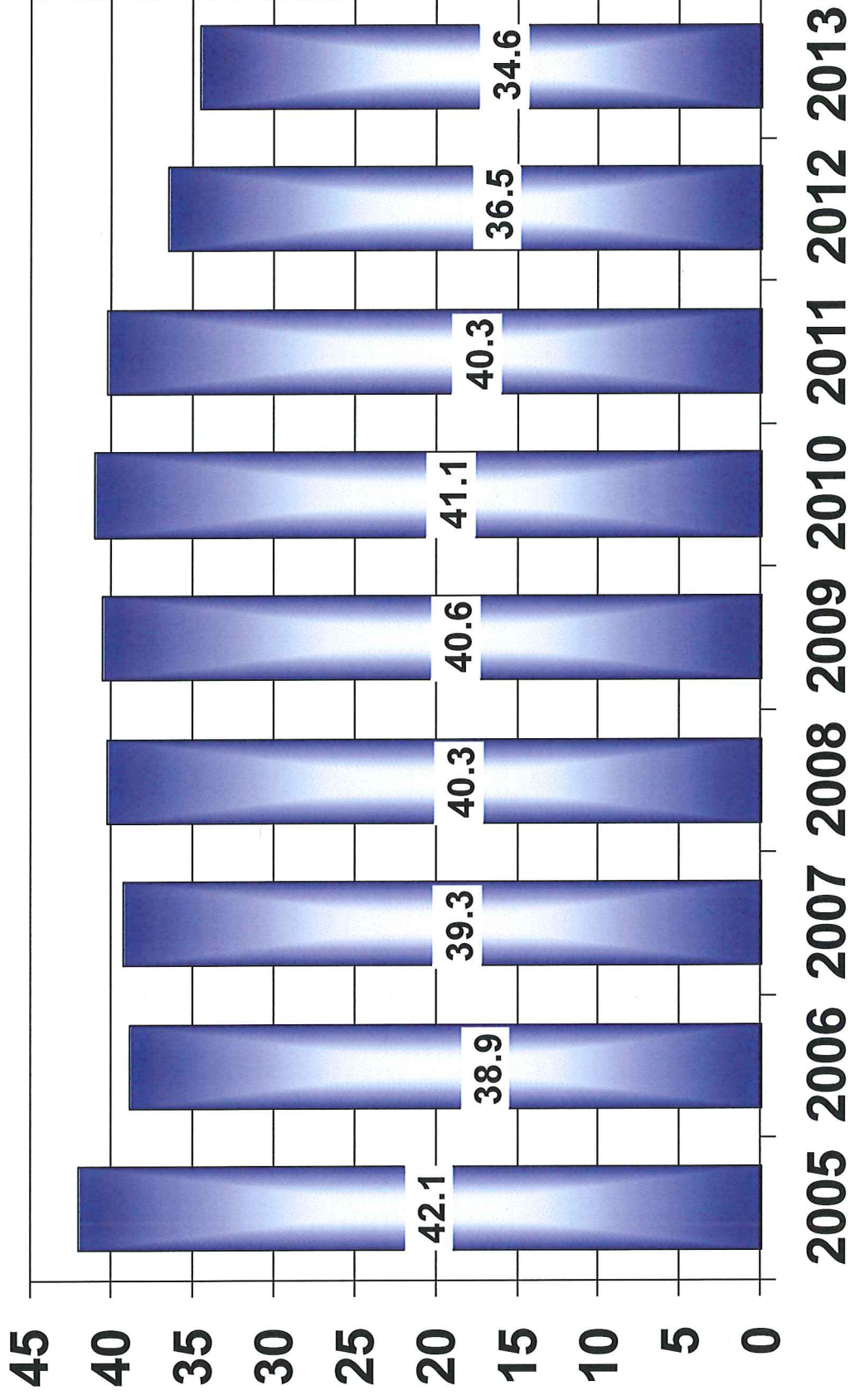
in the City of Hampton, and commend our young people for their effort to make Hampton a peaceful city. Furthermore, I encourage all residents to make regular positive contributions to the peace and well-being of our community.



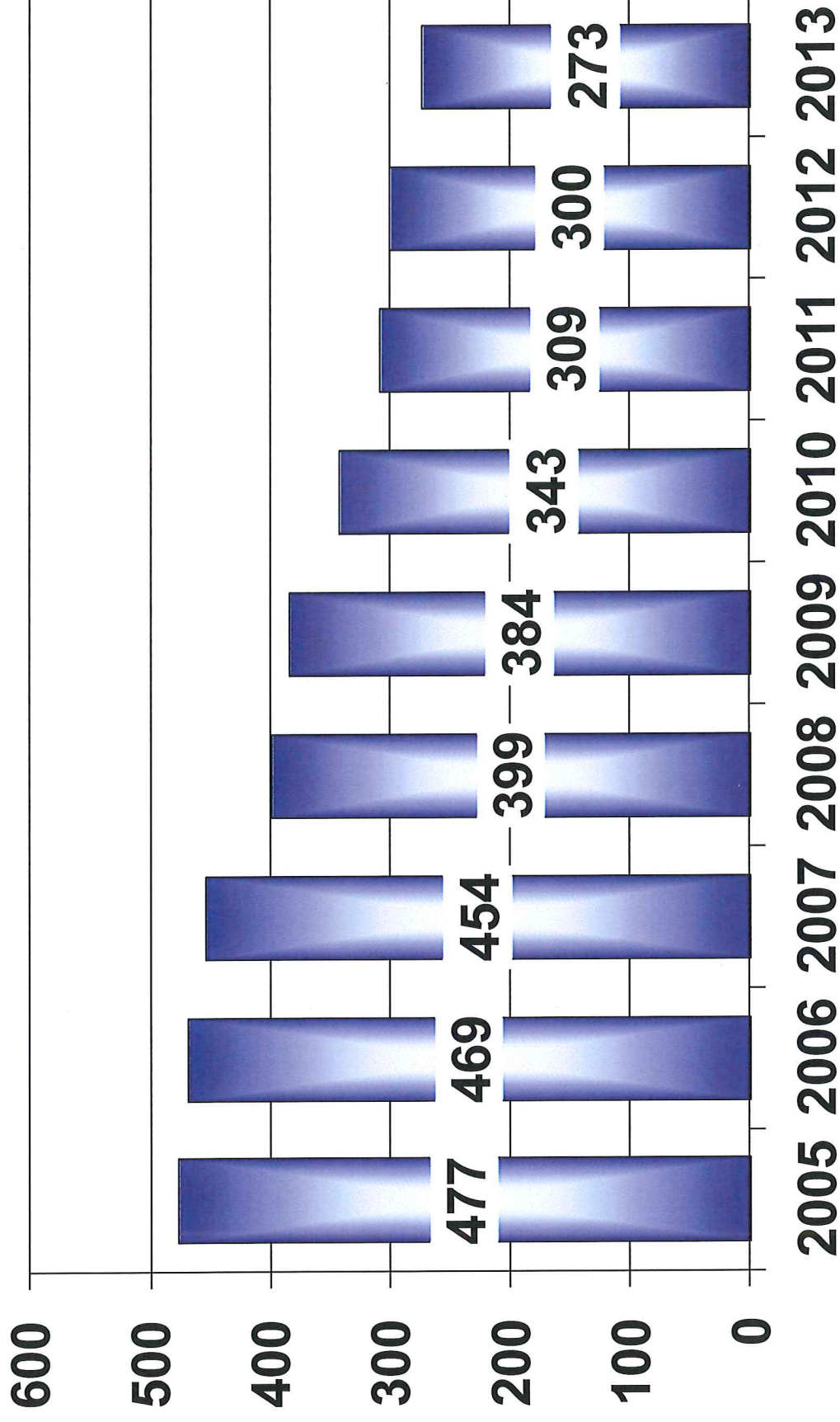
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Hampton, Virginia to be affixed, this First Day of April, Two Thousand and Fourteen.


George E. Wallace
Mayor

Crime Rate per 1000 Population

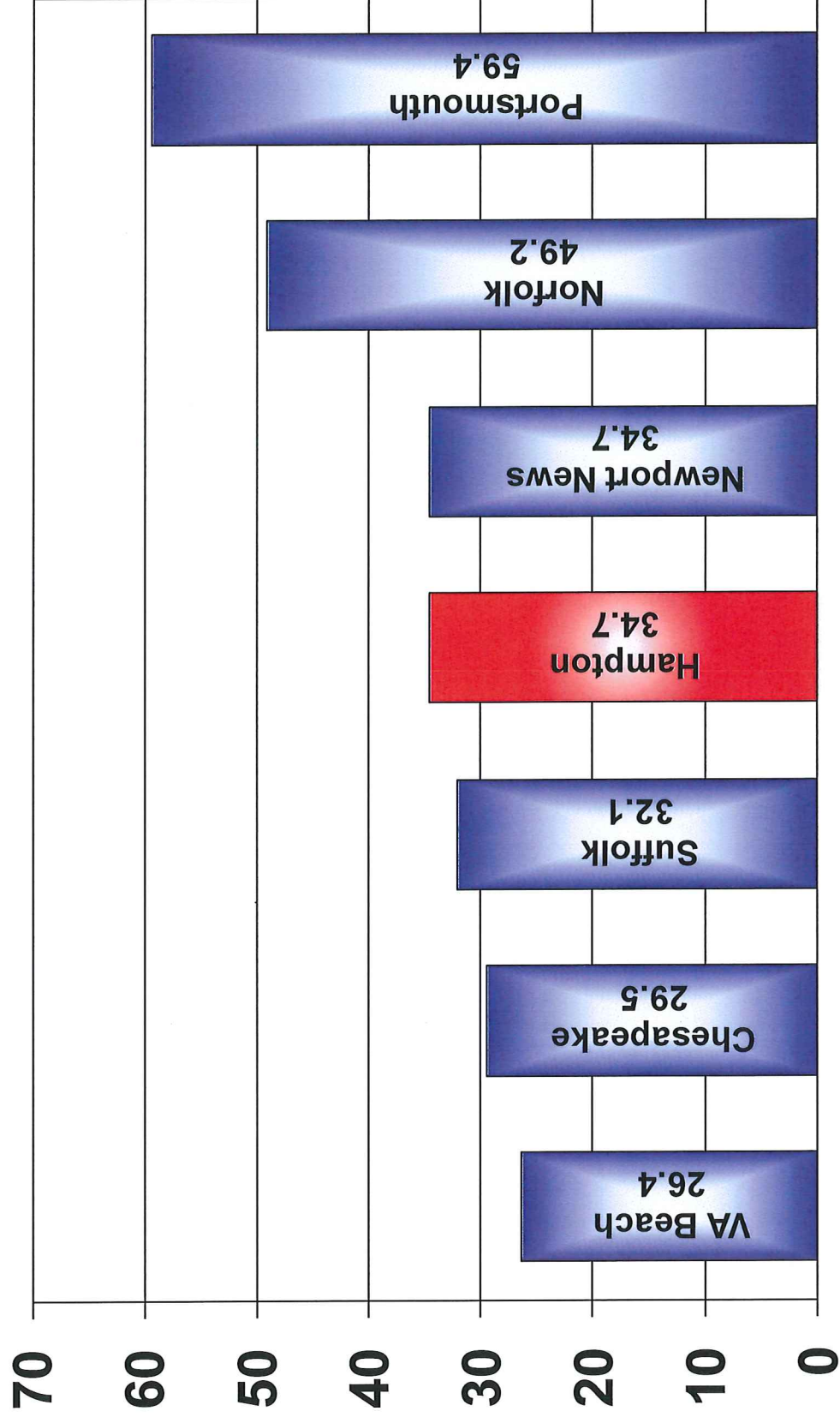


Violent Crimes

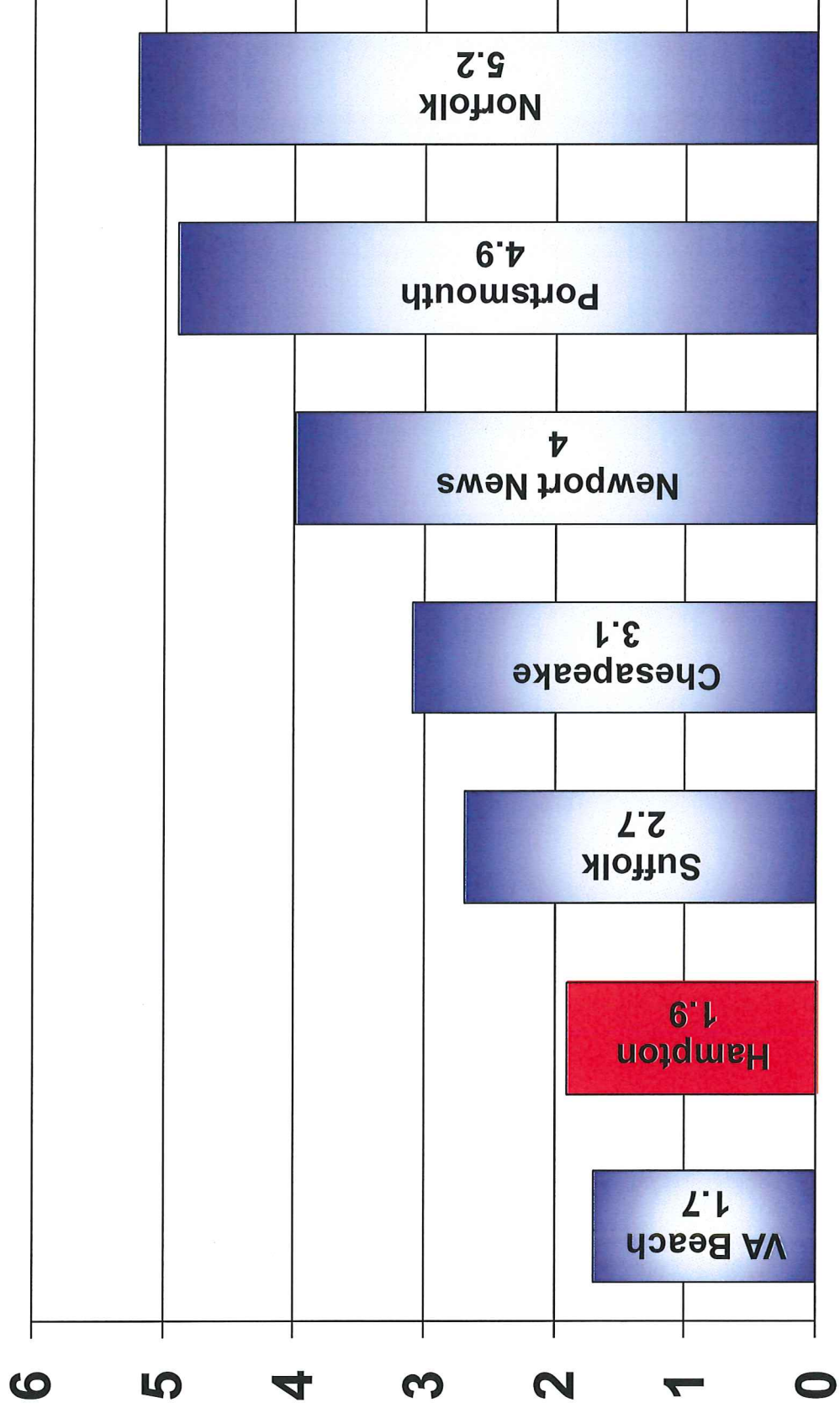


How does Hampton compare to
neighboring areas?

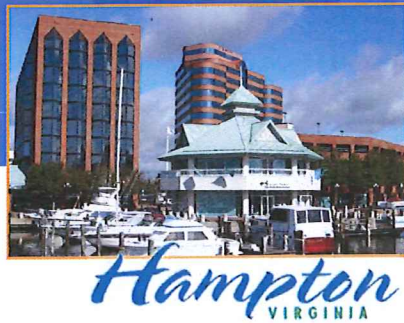
2013 Crime Rate per 1000 Population



2013 Violent Crime Rate per 1000 Population



2014-2015 Consolidated Annual Action Plan for Housing & Community Development



Hampton City Council
Budget Public Hearing
April 23, 2014

Community Development Block Grant Overview

Community Development Block Grant Primary Objective

Development of viable urban communities by providing:

- Decent housing,
- A suitable living environment, and
- Economic opportunity.

Community Development Block Grant National Objectives

Activities must meet one of three national objectives:

- Benefit to low and moderate income persons,
- Aid in the prevention of slums and blight, or
- Meet an urgent need.

HOME Investment Partnership Program Overview

HOME Investment Partnership Program

Primary objectives:

- Expand affordable housing,
- Strengthen the ability of local governments to provide housing, and
- Expand the capacity of non-profit community based housing development organizations.

HOME Investment Partnership Program Conditions

- Matching Funds: 25% local match
- Non-Profit Participation: 15% set-aside for certified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs)

2011-2015 Consolidated Plan

Local Priorities:

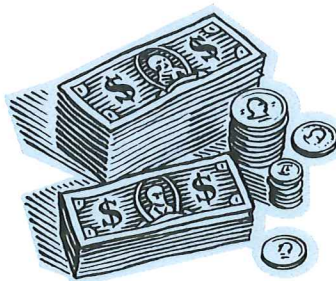
- Improve existing housing stock
- Homeownership incentives
- Affirmatively further fair housing
- Stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods

Resources

FY2014-2015 CDBG & HOME Allocations

**Community Development
Block Grant Program**
\$1,148,685

**HOME Investment Partnership
Program**
\$375,513



FY2014-2015 CDBG and HOME Program Total Resources

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program	\$1,148,685
Estimated CDBG Program Income	\$25,000
CDBG Revolving Loan Fund	\$80,000
CDBG Reimbursement Account	\$192,762
HOME Investment Partnership Program	\$375,513
Estimated HOME Program Income	\$215,000
Total Resources Available:	\$2,036,960

FY2014-2015 CDBG Proposed Program Activities

FY2014-2015 Proposed CDBG Activities

1	Acquisition (HRHA)	\$146,518
2	Disposition (HRHA)	\$50,000
3	Code Enforcement (CDD, Property Maintenance)	\$205,000
4	Housing Programs (HRHA)	\$80,000
5	Housing Services (HRHA)	\$262,642
6	Partnership for a New Phoebus (PFNP)	\$15,550
7	Support Services to Neighborhood Center Programs (Parks & Recreation)	\$142,000

FY2014-2015 Proposed CDBG Activities

8	Community Development Planning & Grant Administration (CDD, Housing & Neighborhoods)	\$229,737
9	Queens River Road (HRHA)	\$225,000
10	Contingency	\$10,000
Total CDBG Activities:		\$1,366,447

FY2014-2015 Proposed CDBG Activities

CDBG Revolving Loan Fund:

11	Housing Programs (HRHA)	\$80,000
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Total Revolving Loan Fund Activities:		\$80,000
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FY2014-2015 HOME Investment Partnership Proposed Program Activities

FY2014-2015 Proposed HOME Activities (HRHA)

12	Homeowner Rehabilitation	\$91,635
13	Homebuyer Assistance	\$105,000
14	Acquisition/Rehabilitation	\$200,000
15	New Housing Construction	\$100,000
16	Community Housing Development Organizations Set-Aside (15%)	\$56,327
17	Administration (10%)	\$37,551
Total HOME Activities:		\$590,513

CDBG & HOME Activities Summary

Total Resources Available	\$2,036,960
Proposed CDBG Activity Totals	\$1,446,447
Proposed HOME Activity Totals	\$590,513
Activity Totals	\$2,036,960

CDBG & HOME Action Plan Schedule

March 31, 2014	Begin 30-Day Public Community Period
April 23, 2014	City Council Meeting Public Hearing
April 30, 2014	End of Public Comment Period
May 7, 2014	City Council Action
May 13, 2014	Plan submitted to Department of Housing & Urban Development for review/approval

Comments & Questions